

*THE HARID<ASA
MOVHMHNT*

71

grant me but this: That I shall ever live
the inner
life in you." Life is of value only as an
opportunity
to serve God. "It is nothing very much,
this life of
a few days. Know this and give in charity
and do
good." Man has an opportunity of rising
denied to
beasts. He should make use of the
opportunity;

"Birth as a human being is a great
opportunity. Do not
misuse it, O silly, O foolish ones. Garner
merit before
the raid. Be not caught in the whirl of false
living."

He asks people to remember that God's
mercy alone
stands. Life in the world is fleeting.
Build tanks,
raise groves, relieve people in distress.
Give food
to those who come to the house asking
for it and
win heaven.

Man must have patience with the world
and go
through with life showing, however, no
weakness
through self and attachment. You must
swim across,
yea, you must fight through life and win.
Being un-
attached to self and desire, loving life as
the water
on the lotus-leaf loves the leaf and singing
always that
Rama is Lord, those who would have the
soul's desire
should swim and win.

In another piece Purandaradasa
preaches patience
with fault-finders and kindness in return
for unkind-
ness. He asks men to realise the secret
of the text
that right alone succeeds and act wisely;
to him who
gives poison to give sweet and tasty food;
to serve

him who hates; to praise and oblige him
who reviles
falsely; and if a man deceives, to give his
name to
their son and honour him and all the while
sing the
glory of Lotus-eyed Purandara Vittala and
realise the
purpose of life.